

Interesting miscellaneous matter will be found on the third page.

THE TELEGRAPH.

For some unknown reason the telegraph was entirely silent last night, and we are in consequence without our usual dispatches this morning.

FONNIFEROUSS.

Our amiable neighbor at the bridge labors through a whole column to show the reader that it was he who caused the accident that it was strange "that this is the first time that the President's name has been mentioned in the papers." We did not mean that no individuals had questioned it. We spoke of the fact that the question had been considered settled, acquiesced in, and adopted by all parties, since the adoption of the Constitution.

This is crawling through a small hole.

We showed that before and after the adoption of the constitution, whenever the question had arisen, the most eminent of our statesmen and jurists, including Hamilton, Webster, Clay, Calhoun, Kent, and Story, had emphatically denied that the constitution conferred, or was meant to confer, any power of removal upon the President alone. Neither the entire weight of respectable legal authority is against that construction of the constitution.

In its favor, almost nothing stands upon the record, but the practice of interested partisan majorities, who were of course at liberty to inquire too closely into the sources of a power of which they were the chief factors and beneficiaries, and the enforced submission of powerless minorities, who could only record their protest against abuses they were impotent to remedy.

It is the very perfidy of Bourbons—it is Terytians fossilized—to now allege this high-banded course of party precedent as a final settlement of a pre-rogative which has been so often and so authoritatively denied, as a principle of law, among friends who have powers to infer the true construction of the constitution. This eminently conservative style of settling questions—by establishing precedents against law and then converting the unlawful precedent into irreverisible law—we say is the very quintessence of High Church Toryism—Bourbonism—ultra-montanism—or whatever else you may call those Cyclops of Despotism which forge the links of custom into chains of prescription to fetter the liberties of mankind—mines of bad precedent petrified into idols of Divine Right for tools and copperheads to worship. Such nonsense as this would put a stop to all progress, and make all reform impossible. If time could legitimate a usurpation or consecrate a wrong, the descendants of Charles the First, and still more those of the extensive plantations of their Majesties', of which Andrew Jackson deserves to be considered the posthumous dictator, and slaves would to day be the ruling power of this republic. Nay, if a long course of governmental practice, with the general acquiescence had heretofore been regarded as binding upon all future generations, negroes must forever have had "no rights which white men are bound to respect," our foreign policy would have remained forever in the hands of the honest and pro-slavery laws would be unknown; imprisonment for debt would still disgrace our statute books, and a thousand other abominations—the one under consideration included—would have been perpetuated by the sanction of irreproachable usage.

The fact is it is only within a comparatively recent period in history—only within the last forty years—that the power of removal permissively though unconstitutionally exercised by the President, has become perverted to such an engine of official and political corruption and demoralization as to require the exercise by Congress of its unquestionable power to define and restrict by statute the limits of this removing power—at least as to all inferior officers. The present administration, the President and the majority of Congress offers one of those rare occasions which will occur again for half a century—when the legislative authority is not interested in perpetuating the abuse of Executive prerogative for purposes of political corruption, and we have a strong faith that, in presenting this opportunity, Providence designed that it should be used to remedy one of the most gigantic evils which have crept into our system of government.

POLITICAL EPISTOL.

The Pioneer has discovered a new cancer of social ethics for the benefit of radical lecturers. We are informed by that journal that the lecturer has no right to obtrude opinions different from those entertained by any portion of his audience, and that it is a piece of gross discourtesy on his part to presume to disagree with any of his listeners who have paid the regalia of admission. The lecturer's audience which requires beneath the same umbrella of novelty, and though the rods assigned to them of agreeing with everybody, might, in practice, be somewhat difficult to fill, it would, no doubt, if it could be made to work, be a decided improvement on the present uncouth and ungenial practices in which lecturers are allowed to indulge, of choosing their own topics and expressing their own inharmonious opinions, in their own unattractive way.

In fact the assumption with which most people start out, that they have more about the subjects of their lectures than their audiences, and that there is anything particular about them personally which render their peculiar views or their peculiar specialties of any special interest to the public, is an insult to the intelligence of, at least, this community. By all means let these follow, with their special social and political and scientific and philosophical and historical theories, and their airs of intellectual superiority, which follows as Emancipation and Moral Philosophy and Free Speech and Anti-Slavery, and so forth. Down with your men of ideas, one or more! And we trust the Lecture Committee of the St. Paul Library Association, by all means, to provide us with lecturers who won't undertake to tell us anything we don't know ourselves, and who will be careful to express only those enlightened and judicious opinions

THE SAINT PAUL DAILY PRESS.

Historical Society

VOLUME VI.

SAINT PAUL SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1866.

NUMBER 301.

LATE NEWS ITEMS.
—A Mr. Anne Drummond of Pawtucket, Iow., has been arrested and held to bail for having three husbands, all living.
—A farmer living near the battle field of Antietam has been cultivating land where Union soldiers were buried.
—The miners' grievances in Cincinnati were unanswered, excepting the minor day by a widow, the body of whose dying husband had disappeared from its grave.

—With nitro-glycerine for blasting, the House Tunnel was advanced at the rate of about one hundred and thirty-five feet per month, the total cost, sixteen, sixty-four per month is the sum the city gave.

—Miss Virginia Penny, of Louisville, whipped her pupil Adam Haas severely, and the senior Haas sued her. She received a sum and costs.

—Hon. Charles Talbot, the friend

of the son of Mr. Tolson, Lewis, the friend

and private Secretary of Washington:

"MRS. GALE & SEATON: I cannot

but suspect some error in the original

copy of the letter addressed to

the conductors of the *National Intelligencer*, I do not know what the letter says,

but I think it is the same as mine.

—Albert Pike says, in a late speech, that the South is the only nation

and Tennessee Railroad is run inter-

nationally, and that the character

which renders him most attractive to

public curiosity, as reformer, rail-

road, and abolitionist.

If any of our conservative friends are so fatuous as to say that the character is reprobate, then it may be a good reason

to keep him silent; but, apart from

the absurdity of such criticisms, it is well

enough, perhaps, to say that, we are

not to like these men, or any men of estab-

lished reputation at all, we make

them on their own terms, in such charac-

ters as they choose to select.

They have got tolerably well used to the libel

and calumny of their friends, and are

not likely to surrender their free

agency to suit a half a dozen Copper-

heads at St. Paul—if there be so many

who share in the opinions set forth in the

Pioneer.

THE DAILY OF DALYSTOWN.

Among the many productions of our

teeming State is a novel, and a

most interesting one.

—Madame Michelin, the young wife of

the French "philosopher" of that name,

like her husband, "la Pensée," is

containing the results of personal experience:

—A New York gentleman who had

two particular lady friends, and fre-

quented saloons, was given to the

habit of getting drunk with his

friends.

—A young man who had

been a member of the Senate, and

had been a member of the House of

Representatives, was given to the

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Thus, the fatal day of Christendom, will be observed in this office as a holiday; and accordingly the publication of the Press will be omitted to-morrow morning. Owing to this omission, our Tri-Weekly subscribers will be furnished with the Daily.

A NET FOR BOMBASTS TO CRAB.

Bombastus Furioso, who, we speak it safely, is something of a W. A. G., in the learned counsel of Col. Geo. H. Woods, in the case of the disputed Assessorship, and if, we are any judge of the bombastic style, is the correspondent of the Pioneer, who signs himself "Lex." Bombastus Furioso knows a thing or two as everybody is aware. What he knows best, is what nobody knows, and if there is anything he doesn't know, it is what everybody knows. It has been heard to describe, with the minutiae historical exactitude of eye-witness, occurrences which have taken place, and to predict with wonderful accuracy what will happen if he had come to power. He is profoundly versed in law, authorities, maxims and precedents that never existed, and in immovable and eternal principles which nobody ever heard of before. Bombastus knows, for instance, that the President's power of removal is "derived from the constitution," which is considerably more than the founders of the constitution knew, or the majority of its exponents; and he not only knows as judge that the law is what it isn't, but he knows as witness and jury that the fact is what it isn't, to wit: that the U.S. Assessor Wilson, who asserted the bombastic construction of the law, and has therefore, been guilty of a high crime, for which Judge Bombastus proposes to send him to the penitentiary or hang him, as may fit the caprice of Bombastus, without the privilege of clergy.

Col. Woods is to be congratulated in his good fortune in securing the services of a lawyer who knows so much more than his books and who can so authoritatively and summarily dispose of most questions of constitutional law, and decide questions fact upon his own evidence, without subjecting him to the tardy and inconvenient processes of judicial investigation—the results of which might not be certain. But even though it were admitted that the authority of Bombastus extended to the constitution, the weight of all the law of the Federalist, Hamilton, Webster, Kent, Story and others, against it—it would not touch the case in point at all. For it is so apparent that this question of executive prerogative is not involved in the particular ground which Deacon Wilson contends to be validity of his pretended removal. It will hardly be claimed even by Bombastus Furioso that the President can remove without the consent of the Senate, except during a recess of the Senate. That cannot do so while the Senate is in session is clearly settled by the terms of the Constitution, and by a uniform practice the propriety of which has never been questioned. Now, admitting that the President has all the power claimed for him to fill up vacancies which may happen during a recess of the Senate, and that he may by his own act create the vacancy in order to fill it, it nevertheless happens that the vacancy is Deacon Wilson's case was not created, and did not happen, during a recess of the Senate; that, therefore, the assumed power does not apply to his case.

We understand that Wilson's lawyers held it to a settled rule of law that the vacancy in such cases commences only at the moment when the incoming receives official notice of his supersession by a qualified officer. Now, Mr. Wilson received no notice of the appointment of Wood till the sixth of December, when the session was in session, and had been for three days. If the lawyers are right as to the rule of law defining when a vacancy occurs, they are unquestionably right in holding that no vacancy was created in Wilson's case, and that Wood's appointment is of no effect until he is confirmed by the Senate. And in that case it follows, in the terribly tempestuous language of Bombastus Furioso:

"A poor old act of Col. Woods is now taught me to be a wise and valuable a series." Every act done by him is a unit, every lesson pio used through him, every word submitted to him recognises him as the superior of the Constitution and of his superiors.

We shall not advise Wilson to still get out of the Woods—but rather think he's got the unscrupulous individual on his hip.

MILITARY TRIBUNALS.

The St. Paul Press was one of the few Republican papers which condemned the policy of trying offenders by military tribunals in States where the civil courts were in operation, without, however, going so far as to deny that in certain extraordinary cases of imminent public peril, such tribunals might be justly resorted to under the war power as a measure of public safety. For there are times unquestionably when the public safety is the supreme law.

But it did not seem to the Press that either in the case of Milligan or his fellow conspirators, in that of the Chicago conspirators, or in that of the assassins of President Lincoln, the military tribunals were of such a nature as to justify the resort to remedies which are capable of such dangerous abuses in the hands of bad men, and which, even when employed by good men for good ends, establish precedents pregnant with mischievous consequences. We notice, however, that the Supreme Court last week rendered a decision in the famous case of Michigan of Indiana, one of the K. G. C. conspirators, which goes beyond the policy to the principle of military tribunals, declaring the prisoner's trial illegal, and his conviction imperious, and ordered his release on the alleged ground that military commissions, whether and however constituted, are unconstitutional and without color of law to support them. The five judges in the majority were Grant, Newell, Clifford, Davis and Field, the two latter being Republicans. The dissenting judges were Chief Justice Chase, Miller, Wayson and Swaney.

This decision is of great importance. It is naturally hailed with consternation by the copperheads who fancy they see in it the condemnation of the patriotic men whose self-devotion saved the nation, and the unbounded license of

THE SAINT PAUL DAILY PRESS.

VOLUME VI.

SURAT ON HIS WAY HOME

He has been Put upon a Man-of-War in Egypt.

THE MURDER OF FREEDMEN IN TEXAS.

Lincoln Assassins to be brought North.

The Recent Supreme Court Decision Reaches Even Therm.

GREAT FIRE IN ELMIRA, N. Y.

Our Special Dispatches.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Special Dispatch to the St. Paul Press.

EXTINCT KINGDOMS AND STATES.

The President, by request of the Prussian Minister, has revoked all previous arrangements with the Kingdom of Prussia, the Electorate of Hanover, the Duchy of Nassau and the city of Frankfurt, thus having been uplifted to

the status of a new nation.

SURATT'S FRIEND AT WORK.

Efforts are making by certain parties to prevent Welchman and other witnesses from testifying against Suratt.

THE NEW YORK FAUCIS.

Darling's whisky committee, who have developed such enormous frauds in New York, find nearly every revenue officer there in complicity with the illicit stills PARDONS.

The President has pardoned S. F. Meminger, rebel Secretary of the Treasury.

HELIOPOLIS REINDEA.

The State Department has selected the State Gazette at Austin, Texas, redoubtable as the official paper.

FATHERS DAY.

The father of the first Congressional church celebrated father's day at the church. Judge McClellan, of Anne Arundel county, for his disregard of the Civil Rights bill.

THE INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE AT NEW ORLEANS.

Special Dispatch to the St. Paul Press.

NEW ORLEANS, December 22.

The Congressional Committee convened this morning, and will work day and night to be ready for the opening of Congress after the recess.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Mr. McCULLOCH IN NEW YORK.

New York, Dec. 24.—Washington special say, one object of Secretary McCullow's visit to New York is to ascertain the public opinion of the Senate on the appointment of a naval officer at that port. Mr. McCullow will also consult with financiers in reference to important financial subjects.

IRON masters and steel growers are busily engaged about the time of the tariff which was passed by the last House and are preparing to exert a formidable influence on the Senate.

It is understood that action will be taken by the U. S. District Court against Judge McQuade, of Anne Arundel county, for his disregard of the Civil Rights bill.

THE INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE AT NEW ORLEANS.

Senator Wilson has been severely criticised for his statement that two thousand negroes had been murdered in Texas during the past year. Senator Roberts from that State places the number at twenty-seven hundred, and declares that the persecution of the blacks is so great that throughout the State they are praying for the re-establishment of slavery.

HOW TO CONVINCE 7,300.

Seven hundred must be endorsed for each voter.

Where notes transmitted for settlement were issued payable to order and held and transmitted by the original holder, they must be indorsed by the original holder.

Mr. McCullow, of the Iron & Steel Association, has called a meeting of that body here on the 16th of January, when the wool interests will be represented.

THE USE OF TURPENTINE.

It is stated that Mr. Prentiss will use the use of turpentine for the Southern States, except in case of riot. This action is founded upon the recent decision of the House to cut off the tax on turpentine.

THE IRONmasters' ASSOCIATION.

It is said that Mathl, Spangler and Laughlin, the assassination conspirators, will bring from their prison at Dry Tortugas for trial civil suit for damages with water-tight.

It is understood that the committee established that the present laws cannot be enforced, either directly or with the aid of a criminal trial, and that the imposition of a license or a fine, or the imposition of a license or a fine, will not be able to increase its efficiency.

THE COMMITTEE INVESTIGATING THE FRANZIUS CASE.

The Franzius house in New York, have discovered still more glaring cases than those given above, and even the White House household, are guilty of similar whisky interests in New York and throughout the country have been using every device to conceal the removal of Comptroller Hollingshead, a very large sum was raised to bribe the commission, but the effect has only been to increase its prestige.

THE COMMITTEE INVESTIGATING THE FRANZIUS CASE.

The Franzius house have subdivided, and the island is tranquil.

SURATT ON HIS WAY HOME.

ALBANY, Egypt, Dec. 22.—Suratt was yesterday put on board the U. S. corvette Sumatra.

TOWN HURDLE.

LIVERPOOL, Dec. 23.—The steamer Hulcier, from Port au Prince the 3d, reported the town of Meugan, Hayti, on the 20th.

LAUNCHED.

The new sloop of war Masthal was successfully launched at the Brooklyn Navy yard this morning.

CURCH BURNING.

Christ's Church was destroyed by fire last night. The loss is \$25,000; insurance, \$10,000.

COMPTROLLER BRENNAN.

John Fenlon has dismissed the charge against Comptroller Brennan for want of confirmation.

Fire at Stock Island.

Special Dispatch to the St. Paul Press.

ROCK ISLAND, Dec. 22.

The white stone church of Christ's Church, which was built in 1851, and cost \$10,000, was destroyed by fire last night. The loss is \$25,000; insurance, \$10,000.

WILLIAM H. DAVAL.

Special Dispatch to the St. Paul Press.

JOHN MCNAULSON.

Late Parish Priest, Anderson, Ind.

It is naturally hailed with consternation by the copperheads who fancy they see in it the condemnation of the patriotic men whose self-devotion saved the nation, and the unbounded license of

SAINT PAUL, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1866.

NUMBER 302.

FROM CHICAGO.

Fires—The Yo-Su Valley Burning.

Special Dispatch to the St. Paul Press.

CHICAGO, Dec. 22.

A fire broke out this morning in Sanders Bros. Brothers, establishment corner of Van Buren and Jefferson streets. Loss small. Kenyon & Cooper's mustard factory was also consumed. Loss \$3,000 partially insured.

Mr. Crook publishes a note to assure certificates holders that the Yo-Su valley fire has not destroyed the Yo-Su valley property, but still remains the property of the association.

The mistake arose from the sale of smaller and inferior products of Yo-Su valley by the same artist.

Operation of a Committee.

Special Dispatch to the St. Paul Press.

CAIRO, Dec. 22.

A confidence man calling himself Smedley, representing himself as route agent of the Post Office Department on the Mississippi Central Railroad, authority over agents, giving sundry orders which were promptly obeyed. Arriving at Jackson, Miss., took charge of the post office for three or four days, and had access to all mail matter. His conduct was so impudent that he was arrested and confined to the cellars of the New Orleans bank and disappeared. The next day was reported dead.

LOW PRICES

AT

L.C. BURT'S,

142 Third street.

CELEBRATED

LATEST FASHIONS

DEMAND

LAMPS!

A large stock of

LAMPS, LAMP CHIMNEYS

Lamp Wick and Lanterns,

Just received at the

CROCKERHOUSE

or

POLLOCK, DONALDSON & OGDEN,

Union Block, Third street, St. Paul.

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VOLUME VI.

Historical Society.

WOOD'S CHRISTMAS DINNER.
On Christmas morning, while all good Christians were at church or at home enjoying the religious or social festivities appropriate to this most ancient and sacred of holidays, Gen. W. A. Woods, taking advantage of Mr. Wilson's absence at his place of worship, was engaged in the genial and joyful business of breaking with a Marshal and a crowbar, into Mr. Wilson's office and appropriating the private property of himself and son.

Considering that Mr. Wilson's office is open for six days every week to all comers, and that no free permission has been repeatedly given to Mr. Woods, and the U. S. Marshal to search the premises for anything they might want to take, Mr. Woods was compelled to do it, and it is a little difficult to comprehend why Woods or his lawyers should prefer to effect a burglarious entrance into the premises in the absence of their proprietors; and of all days in the year, Mr. Woods or his lawyers should have especially selected Christmas for this burglarious exploit, is most difficult to conceive, unless we suppose that to be Woods' or W. A. G.'s waggon way of celebrating Christmas; and that the pleasurable excitement of a criminal adventure was necessary to their enjoyment of the day. Woods and his Waggon adviser did not, however, make much by their motion. The luxurious Christmas feast of assessors' books and revenue lists on which he had dwelt with such pleasant anticipation, turned out to be as bad as had exploded in Wilson's back closet, and proved to be a big, hot cold lemons and mouldy scraps. His nose was full of refuse blanks; and his plate was full of a lot of chow-chow revenue lists of no particular use to anybody. And that was Woods' Christmas dinner—a bundle of dusty old papers; and it was to possess himself of this rich treasure that he had waited and watched, week in and week out, with ever-increasing appetite, till Wilson's absence from his office should afford him the coveted opportunity of breaking locks and smashing plates, and peering stealthily into the pockets and trunks for what his little boy had for the asking.

The Colonel has got his money.

Wood's has changed his mind about removing the United States Assessor's office to Minneapolis. He now regards the office as stationary, and unfortunately the stationery is not in his possession.

J. JAY KNOX, Esq., accompanied the Senatorial party to Nashville, on his way to St. Paul.

Concordia adjourned on the 20th inst., to take a recess for the holiday season till the 3rd of January.

WOOD'S CHRISTMAS BOX.—Captain Wilson's old army trunk.

GREAT CONFLAGRATION IN STILL-WATER.

One-fourth of the Business Portion of the City in Ruins.

LOSS, \$25,000—NO INSURANCE.

STILL-WATER, Dec. 25, 1866.

Editor to Paul Press.—A fire broke out this morning about 5 o'clock, in the New American saloon, kept by Casper Wienhien, on Main street, and, when discovered, was so far under headway, that no efforts were made to quench the flames. In fact, Mr. Wienhien's family, who lived over the saloon, had barely time to escape from the burning building with only what clothes clung to them, if these, if he could only get them. But to go with the perils and trials of this romantic and Blindman's Buff of house-breaking and pett leavening, to make believe generally ridiculous, for just nothing at all, to be so flushed for his pains, is a kind of public announcement good enough for his kind, but which, on the score of decency, we would by all means recommend those who wish to indulge in it, to choose some other day than Christmas.

The St. Paul Press has had a limited circulation in Minneapolis for some time, and no argument, or reference to "dise," is necessary to prove that the paper is not wanted there, nor to do us an injury. For years, when Minneapolis was struggling for existence, we had nothing but the Press and abuse from the Pauls.

There is but one word in the English language whereby the above can be fittingly characterized. It is a lie, and the *Atlas* virtually admits it to be a lie, in declining our challenge to produce a single line from the entire staff of the St. Paul Press.

The difficulty of the *Atlas* is that it has not yet got over its chronic conviction that Bill King is the boulder and the *Atlas* virtually admits it to be a lie, in declining our challenge to produce a single line from the entire staff of the St. Paul Press.

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City Advertisements.

The Saint Paul Press.

A CURIOUS DREAM.

NOTICE TO BUSINESS MEN.
At the time of the proposed opening of Canada street, in the city of St. Paul, it was agreed by the Commissioners appointed by the Governor, at 10 o'clock A.M., Friday, the 8th day of January, 1866, to proceed to the office of the Assessors the day previous to the time of assessing the damages, etc.

CHARLES H. OAKES,
HUNTER & CO.,
J. L. NEWELL,
J. L. MERRILL,
ROBERT S. TURNER,
Commissioners.

Railroads.

1860.

1860.

MINNESOTA RAILROAD.

Winter Arrangement.
On and after MONDAY, December 17, 1866, Passenger Trains will run as follows:

St. Paul & MINNEAPOLIS ACCOMMODATION.

Three Trains Each Day.

GOING UP.

Leave St. Paul, 10:05 A.M., 1:00 P.M., 4:00 P.M., 7:00 P.M.; 10:05 P.M., 1:00 A.M., 4:00 A.M., 7:00 A.M. At Minneapolis, 10:05 A.M., 1:00 P.M., 4:00 P.M., 7:00 P.M.; 10:05 P.M., 1:00 A.M., 4:00 A.M., 7:00 A.M. At Mendota, 10:05 A.M., 1:00 P.M., 4:00 P.M., 7:00 P.M.; 10:05 P.M., 1:00 A.M., 4:00 A.M., 7:00 A.M.

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THE CITY.
GRAND RAILWAY EXCURSION.

Opening of the Minnesota Rail Road to Belle Plaine.

Delegations from St. Paul accompany the Party.

A Grand Banquet.

INCIDENTS OF THE TRIP

TOASTS & LETTERS

Delightful Weather and a Glorious Time.

Yesterday was a day long to be remembered by all who took a part in the grand excursion to Belle Plaine, for the purpose of aiding in the proper inauguration ceremonies of the completion of the Minnesota Valley Railroad to that place.

THEATHER
Was delightful. A better day, at this season of the year, could not have been made to order. The morning air was cool, crisp, and sharp, breathing with a life and energy that could not be equalled. The birds were singing, and the insects were flying about, as though they had just woken from their long winter's sleep. The sun shone brightly, and the sky was clear and blue. The air was full of life and energy, and the whole scene was one of great beauty and interest.

The excursion train, drawn by the engine "Belle Plaine," started up the road, well loaded, with the splendor of music of the Great Western Band. The excursionists were soon up, lawyers, doctors, bankers, merchants, musicians, reporters, and newspapermen of every degree, and representatives of every class of the community. They soon reached the city of the great apothecary, and then waked them as they made their way towards their destination. There they reached the castellated walls of Fort Snelling.

SHAKOPEE
Was reached about ten o'clock, when the train was stopped fifteen or twenty minutes, to allow the excursionists an opportunity to have a good look at that populous and opulent city. Soon "All aboard" was sounded, and all were again seated in the cars. Nothing of interest occurred, from the time of leaving West St. Paul, till we arrived at Shakopee.MERRIMAN
When that train reached at this antique and weirdly built-up town, something did occur that we feel totally unable to adequately describe. Neither Tyre nor Sidan, nor all the wealthy cities of the East, can approach it in wealth, magnificence and grandeur. It stretches out over the plains to a wonderful extent, and surpasses all other cities we ever heard of except Chicago. This fact being known to the excursionists, and it also being known to them that the founder of this wonderful city—Col. John L. Merriman—was on board, a general desire was expressed that the train should be stopped and opportunity given of viewing the wonderful place. Just as we reached it loud and continuous cheers were made for "Merriman, Merriman, Merriman," and at that that general with becoming diffidence made his appearance, with the virgin blare of modesty, manning his youthfulness, and informed the excursionists that to gratify them he would stop the train a few minutes. At this announcement a shout of joy went up.THE TOASTS
After the toast was called, when the excursion entered the dining room, and an ample and abundant feast, which was prepared under the supervision of Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Gillett, who are assisting Mr. Walter Newton this winter in conducting the Belle Plaine Hotel. Proper attention having been paid to the substantial, the material portion of the entertainment, the attention of the excursionists was invited to the reading ofTHE TOASTS
Hon. A. G. Chatfield President, delivered an appropriate and handsome speech. In which he said:

The toast that calls upon the people of Belle Plaine to give some substance to the gratification felt by her people at the time of the opening of the railroad, now so fully established, that it will be the inevitable enterprise for a large proportion of the harvest in their hands to be sold to the Indians who have come to the valley.

We celebrate an epoch in the history of our country, when the Indians, with us, are in receipt of your invitation to present the great harvests of the West, and with the like, other, like Venice, capitol of the world.

Yours very respectfully, JOHN D. BRISBANE.

Mr. Dillon O'Brien responded to the sentiments of the toast.

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